

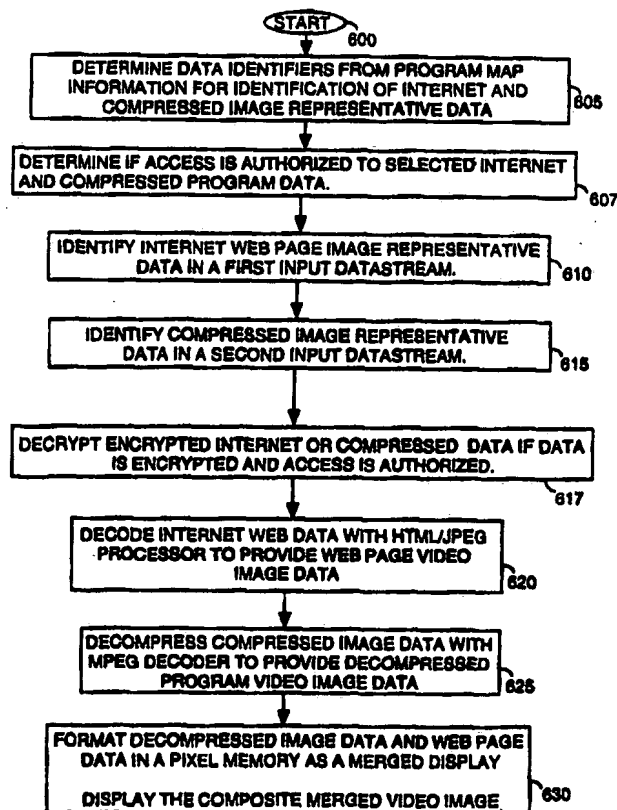
PCTWORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁶ : H04N 7/173, 5/44	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/47288 (43) International Publication Date: 22 October 1998 (22.10.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/17038 (22) International Filing Date: 23 September 1997 (23.09.97) (30) Priority Data: 60/043,539 14 April 1997 (14.04.97) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THOMSON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS, INC. [US/US]; 10330 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46290-1024 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HAILEY, James, Edwin [US/US]; 7239 Creekside Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46250 (US). JOHNSON, Michael, Wayne [US/US]; 7316 Cobblestone West Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46236 (US). (74) Agents: TRIPOLI, Joseph, S. et al.; GE & RCA Licensing Management Operation, Inc., P.O. Box 5312, Princeton, NJ 08543 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR FORMING AND PROCESSING AN MPEG COMPATIBLE DATASTREAM INCORPORATING INTERNET INFORMATION**(57) Abstract**

A data format includes MPEG compatible video data and Internet image information suitable for conveying packetized video program data and associated web image information. The data format comprises MPEG system data that includes a first transport packet with a header containing a first data identifier (PID) for identifying (605, 615) the video program data in a payload of the first transport packet. The MPEG system data also includes a second transport packet containing a second data identifier (PID) for identifying (605, 610) Internet information contained in a payload of the second transport packet. The MPEG system data also includes ancillary data supporting the identification and decoding (620, 625) of the Internet information and containing the second data identifier. Internet data in the composite data format is decoded and synchronized with video program data by applying the ancillary data in identifying, decoding and assembling (630) the Internet information.



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Revised Article 34
010099

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PC/TV system User interface, for example, should allow a User to view a selected program and permit User operation of functions such as Email, telephone, Internet access, fax and video-phone functions. Such applications require communication between a
5 PC/TV unit and a variety of both remote sources e.g. a satellite service provider, and local sources e.g. a DVD storage device. Further, a PC/TV needs to process and decode data in different data formats from different devices and display received data to the User. These problems are addressed by a system according to
10 the present invention.

Summary of the Invention

The inventors have hereby recognized that a Program
15 Guide type of User interface advantageously provides a simple, easy to use interface for User operation of functions such as Email, telephone, Internet access, fax, home control, and video-phone functions. The use of a Program Guide for such functions also advantageously provides a single User interface for User operation
20 of multiple devices and associated functions.

The inventors have further recognized that Internet information requested via a program guide or other type of User interface may be advantageously conveyed in a composite data format including MPEG compatible video data. They have further
25 recognized that it is desirable for a video decoder system to be capable of decoding such a composite data format.

A disclosed data format includes MPEG compatible video data and Internet image information suitable for conveying packetized video program data and associated web image
30 information. The data format comprises MPEG system data that includes a first transport packet with a header containing a first data identifier (PID) for identifying the video program data in a payload of the first transport packet. The MPEG system data also includes a second transport packet containing a second data
35 identifier (PID) for identifying Internet information contained in a payload of the second transport packet. The MPEG system data also includes ancillary data supporting the identification and

30
CLAIMS

1. A composite data format including MPEG compatible video data and Internet image information suitable for conveying
5 packetized video program data and associated web image information, comprising:

MPEG system data including

(a) a first transport packet with a header containing a first data identifier (PID) for identifying said video program data
10 in a payload of said first transport packet;

(b) a second transport packet containing
a second data identifier (PID) for identifying said Internet information, said Internet information being contained in a payload of said second transport packet; and
15 ancillary data containing said second data identifier and supporting identification and decoding of said Internet information.

2. A data format according to claim 1, wherein
20 said ancillary data includes at least one of: (a) a web image data start code; (b) a packet count; (c) packet length; (d) packet linking data; (e) a web image data indication flag; (f) a timing parameter for synchronizing web image information with a video or audio program; (g) web image size and (h) error
25 correction data.

3. A data format according to claim 2, wherein
at least one element of said ancillary data is contained in said header of said second transport packet; and
30 at least one element of said ancillary data is contained in said payload of said second transport packet.

4. A data format according to claim 1, wherein
said second data identifier is contained in a header of
35 said second transport packet.

5. A data format according to claim 1, wherein said ancillary data is contained in said payload of said second transport packet.

5

6. A data format according to claim 1, wherein said MPEG system data includes program map information for associating said Internet information and said video program.

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7. A data format according to claim 6, wherein said program map information associates said Internet information, said first data identifier and said second data identifier.

15

8. A data format according to claim 1, wherein said video program data is MPEG compatible compressed video data and said Internet information is non-MPEG compatible data.

20

9. A data format according to claim 8, wherein said Internet information comprises non-compressed video data.

25 10. A method for decoding a datastream containing packetized video program data and associated web image information, comprising the steps of:

identifying said video program data in a payload of a first transport packet using a first data identifier (PID) contained
30 in a header of said first transport packet;

deriving a second data identifier (PID) from ancillary data supporting identification and decoding of Internet information in a second transport packet;

identifying said Internet information in a payload of
35 said second transport packet using said second data identifier; and
assembling said Internet information into an output datastream using said ancillary data.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein in said assembling step

said Internet information is assembled into said output
5 datastream using at least one of: (a) a web image data start code;
(b) a packet count; (c) packet length; (d) packet linking data; (e) a
web image data indication flag; (f) a timing parameter for
synchronizing web image information with a video or audio
program; and (g) error correction data.

10

12. A method according to claim 10, including the steps of

decoding said assembled Internet information using a
first method to provide a first decoded output;

15

decoding said video program data using a second
method to provide a second decoded output.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein
said first method decodes non-MPEG compatible
20 Internet information, and
said second method decompresses MPEG compatible
compressed video data.

14. A method according to claim 10, wherein in said
25 deriving step

said second data identifier is derived from program
map information associating said second data identifier with said
Internet information.

30

15. A method according to claim 10, including the step
of

deriving said first data identifier from program map
information associating said first data identifier with said video
program data.

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16. A method for decoding a datastream containing packetized video program data and associated web image information, comprising the steps of:

5 identifying said video program data in a payload of a first transport packet using a first data identifier (PID) contained in a header of said first transport packet;

deriving a second data identifier (PID) from ancillary data supporting identification and decoding of Internet information in a second transport packet;

10 identifying said Internet information in a payload of said second transport packet using said second data identifier; and
synchronizing said Internet information with said video program using said ancillary data.

15 17. A method according to claim 16, further including the steps of

identifying audio program data, and
synchronizing said audio data with said Internet information.

20

REC'D 20 JUL 1999

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference RCA 88751	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US97/17038	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/09/1997	Priority date (day/month/year) 14/04/1997
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04N7/173		
Applicant THOMSON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS, INC. et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 8 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☒ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☒ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 06/11/1998	Date of completion of this report 16. 07. 99
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel (+49-89) 2399-0 Tx: 523656 epmu d	Authorized officer Noll, B 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US97/17038

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

Description, pages:

1,3-29	as originally filed			
2,2a	as received on	30/03/1999	with letter of	25/03/1999

Claims, No.:

1-22	as received on	30/03/1999	with letter of	25/03/1999
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Drawings, sheets:

1/9-9/9	as originally filed
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2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application.
- ☒ claims Nos. 16-22.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US97/17038

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- ☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.
- ☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 16-22.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims 1-15
	No: Claims
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims
	No: Claims 1-15
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims 1-15
	No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/US97/17038

VI. Certain documents cited

1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

and / or

2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/US97/17038

To section III:

Independent claims 16 and 19 comprise the feature that the Internet information is processed to form a composite image with the video program. This feature was not in the original set of claims and has not been searched. Consequently, no search report has been established for present claims 16-22.

To section V:

With regard to claim 1 the document US-A-5 544 161 (hereinafter referred to as D1) discloses a data format for distributing video and other information through an ATM network. An ATM packet demultiplexer provides for flexible MPEG addressing of incoming data, i.e. it encodes the data into MPEG packets having specific PIDs (column 7, line 66 to column 8 line 21). Hence there already exists a composite MPEG data format carrying video data packets, which include respective identifiers in the header, and other information packets likewise including corresponding identifiers in the header.

Present claim 1 includes the following additional features:

- (a) the second transport packet contains Internet information
- (a) the second data packet contains ancillary data for supporting identification and decoding of the Internet information.

Regarding feature (a) it is already known from D1 to enable transport of Internet data through the network (column 8, lines 53-62). Since the ATM packet demultiplexer encodes various kinds of data into MPEG form a skilled person would directly envisage to also encode Internet information into MPEG form to transmit it to users through the network described in D1. Regarding feature (b) it is an intrinsic feature of MPEG packets that the header contains information supporting decoding of the received information. For example, a header of a video sequence defines things like frame rate, resolution etc (see D1, column 24, lines 13-16). Hence a skilled person directly envisages to include information for supporting decoding also in the additional packets which carry Internet information. Therefore, the method of claim 1 is not based on an inventive step.

The additional features of claims 2-5 are likewise evident from D1, see passages above and column 10, line 25 to column 11, line 44 as well as column 23, lines 48-51. The features of claims 6-9 are obvious from D1, see passages mentioned above and col-

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/US97/17038

umn 23, lines 48-64.

Claim 10 concerns a method of decoding a data stream having a format as described in claim 1. A skilled person which intends to detect different kind of data from the received data stream directly envisages that the data identifiers corresponding to packets carrying desired information are identified. See also D1, column 23, line 48 to column 24, line 22.

Claims 11-15 relate to details of decoding the MPEG and non- MPEG data which are obvious from the above mentioned passages of D1.

To section VI:

The documents:

WO-A-97 28499 (filed 31.1.97; published 7.8.97; claimed priority 2.2.96),
WO-A-97 41690 (filed 1.5.97; published 6.11.97; claimed priority 2.5.96), and
US-A-5 666 487 (filed 28.6.95; published 9.9.97)

are considered as relevant with the present claims. It should be mentioned that their priorities and that of the present application have not been checked.

To section VII:

Reference signs in parentheses should be inserted in the claims to increase their intelligibility, Rule 6.2(b) PCT. This applies to both the preamble and characterising portion.

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference RCA 88751	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US 97/ 17038	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/09/1997	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 14/04/1997
Applicant THOMSON CONSUMER ELECTRONICS, INC. et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (see Box I).

2. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

3. ☐ The international application contains disclosure of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing and the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing

☐ filed with the international application.

☐ furnished by the applicant separately from the international application,

☐ but not accompanied by a statement to the effect that it did not include matter going beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.

☐ Transcribed by this Authority

4. With regard to the title, ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this International Search Report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is:

Figure No. 9 ☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ None of the figures.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP 97/17038

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 H04N7/173 H04N5/44

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 H04N G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 544 161 A (BIGHAM J. ET AL) 6 August 1996 see column 33, line 11 - column 40, line 39 see column 2, line 46 - column 7, line 47 ----	1-16
A	US 5 481 542 A (LOGSTON G. ET AL) 2 January 1996 see column 3, line 14 - column 4, line 32 see column 19, line 60 - line 61 see column 19, line 18 - column 29, line 23 ----	1-16
A	WO 97 09827 A (NEC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD) 13 March 1997 see page 6, line 17 - page 8, line 30 see page 15, line 26 - page 20, line 15 see page 25, line 10 - page 27, line 27 ----- -/--	1, 10, 16



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 February 1998

Date of mailing of the international search report

13/02/1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Verschelden, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PC 97/17038

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 583 864 A (LIGHTFOOT R. ET AL) 10 December 1996 see column 17, line 42 - line 46 see column 34, line 46 - column 36, line 11 ---	1, 10, 16
A	EP 0 723 369 A (NTEX DATA COMMUNICATIONS BV) 24 July 1996 see the whole document ---	1, 8-10, 16
A	PROFFIT B.: "INTERCAST BRINGS THE WEB TO TV" PC MAGAZINE, 21 January 1997, pages 203-204, XP002053914 see the whole document ---	1, 8-10, 16
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 97, no. 5, 30 May 1997 & JP 09 009160 A (SONY CORPORATION), 10 January 1997, see abstract ---	1, 10, 16
P, X	WO 97 28499 A (AWARD SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL INC.) 7 August 1997 see the whole document ---	1, 10, 16
E	WO 97 41690 A (AWARD SOFTWARE INTERNATIONAL INC.) 6 November 1997 see the whole document ---	1, 10, 16
P, X	US 5 666 487 A (GOODMAN W. ET AL) 9 September 1997 see the whole document -----	1-16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PC17/US 97/17038

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5544161 A	06-08-96	NONE	
US 5481542 A	02-01-96	AU 1087095 A	29-05-95
		BR 9408030 A	17-12-96
		CA 2176131 A	18-05-95
		CN 1134771 A	30-10-96
		EP 0728398 A	28-08-96
		JP 9505186 T	20-05-97
		WO 9513681 A	18-05-95
WO 9709827 A	13-03-97	AU 6782896 A	27-03-97
US 5583864 A	10-12-96	NONE	
EP 0723369 A	24-07-96	NONE	
WO 9728499 A	07-08-97	NONE	
WO 9741690 A	06-11-97	NONE	
US 5666487 A	09-09-97	NONE	

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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in its capacity as elected Office

OF ELECTION

61.2)

07 December 1998 (07.12.98)

International application No.

PCT/US97/17038

Applicant's or agent's file reference

RCA 88751

International filing date (day/month/year)

23 September 1997 (23.09.97)

Priority date (day/month/year)

14 April 1997 (14.04.97)

Applicant

HAILEY, James, Edwin et al

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

06 November 1998 (06.11.98)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer

J. Leitao

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38